



Released: 2:00 p.m., Monday
September 19, 2005

Week of September 12 - September 18, 2005

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Milder temperatures but mostly below normal precipitation.

Good progress on dry bean harvest.

Cattle and sheep being moved from summer ranges.

Daytime highs were mostly in the 70's to the low 90's, while night time temperatures were mostly in the mid 20's to upper 30's. Temperatures were much cooler than the previous week's unseasonably warm temperatures. Western areas received rain but other parts of the state were mostly dry.

As of September 18, 34 percent of the State had adequate topsoil moisture, 1 point above last week. Topsoil moisture supplies were still well ahead of the 5-year average of 20 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture was rated adequate in 34 percent of the state, better than last year's 26 percent and the average of 16 percent.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

| | TOPSOIL | | | | SUBSOIL | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-yr Avg | This Week | Last Year | 5-Yr Avg |
| | Percent | | | | | | |
| Very Short | 20 | 19 | 26 | 39 | 27 | 38 | 42 |
| Short | 46 | 48 | 43 | 41 | 39 | 36 | 42 |
| Adeq | 34 | 33 | 31 | 20 | 34 | 26 | 16 |
| Surp | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

| ITEM | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Yr Avg |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Winter Wheat Planted | 85 | 67 | 67 | 79 |
| Winter Wheat Emerged | 46 | 30 | 28 | 43 |
| Barley Harvested | 97 | 94 | 98 | 98 |
| Oats Harvested | 94 | 89 | 88 | 92 |
| Corn Dent | 83 | 74 | 47 | 76 |
| Corn Mature | 23 | 11 | 1 | 43 |
| Corn Silage | 52 | 26 | 52 | 63 |
| Dry Beans Leaves Turn | 99 | 91 | 95 | 98 |
| Dry Beans Windrowed | 65 | 41 | 40 | 66 |
| Dry Beans Combined | 39 | 11 | 16 | 42 |
| Alfalfa Second Cut | 98 | 94 | 96 | 97 |

FIELD CROP REPORT: An average of 6.8 days were suitable for field work. Winter wheat planting was 85 percent complete, 18 points ahead of last year and 6 points ahead of the average. Winter wheat emerged on 46 percent of the acreage, also ahead of last year and average. Barley harvest was nearly complete at 97 percent, near average pace. Oats harvest was 94 percent complete, ahead of last year by 6 points and ahead of the average by 2 points.

Sugarbeets condition, at 85 percent rated good, was unchanged from last week and still 10 points above last year at this time. Corn condition fell slightly with 13 percent rated excellent and 69 percent good, but was still much better than last year when only 60 percent was rated good. Eighty-three percent of the corn was dented, 7 points ahead of average and 36 points ahead of last year. Corn was mature on 23 percent of the acreage. Corn was harvested for silage on 52 percent of the expected acreage, even with last year but 11 points behind average.

Dry beans remained in mostly good condition, with 84 percent rated good and only 16 percent fair. Sixty-five percent of the dry beans were windrowed, ahead of last year by 24 points but 1 point behind average. Thirty-nine percent of the dry beans were combined, now only 3 points behind average versus 14 points behind average last week. The third cutting of alfalfa was 30 percent complete, 9 points ahead of last year but 17 points behind average.

CROP CONDITION TABLE

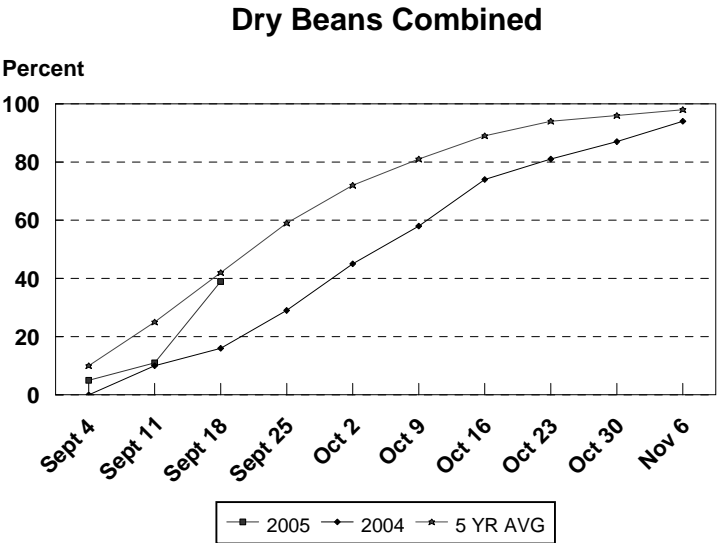
| ITEM | V POOR | POOR | FAIR | GOOD | EXCEL |
|------------|---------|------|------|------|-------|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Corn | 0 | 5 | 13 | 69 | 13 |
| Sugarbeets | 0 | 0 | 15 | 85 | 0 |
| Dry Beans | 0 | 0 | 16 | 84 | 0 |

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT: Range and pasture lands were rated good or excellent in 47 percent of the state, up 2 points from last week and well ahead of last year's 13 percent and the 5-year average of 10 percent. Cattle and sheep were being moved from summer ranges at a slower pace than average. About 19 percent of the cattle and 24 percent of the sheep were moved at week's end. The averages were 36 percent and 40 percent respectively.

PASTURE AND RANGE FEED

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Yr Avg |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | Percent | | | |
| Very Poor | 5 | 3 | 42 | 35 |
| Poor | 17 | 13 | 27 | 30 |
| Fair | 31 | 39 | 18 | 25 |
| Good | 43 | 40 | 9 | 9 |
| Excellent | 4 | 5 | 4 | 1 |

WEATHER SUMMARY: For the week ending Friday, September 17th, temperatures ranged from 6.6 degrees below normal in Afton to 3.6 degrees above normal in Cheyenne. The high temperature was 96 in Wheatland and the low was 21 in Big Piney. Precipitation was below normal except in some western areas. The most precipitation was reported in Rawlins had 0.58 inches, Rock Springs had 0.48 inches, and Big Piney had 0.37 inches.



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 16, 2005

| TEMPERATURE | | | | : | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
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BLANKS - INDICATE MISSING DATA.
AP - AIRPORT. T - TRACE. () - ESTIMATES.
1/LATE REPORTS CAN CHANGE PREVIOUS WEEK'S CUMULATIVE TOTALS.